

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF NEW YORK

-----x  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

-v-

MICHAEL ADAMS

-----x  
JUDGMENT INCLUDING SENTENCE  
UNDER THE SENTENCING REFORM ACT

CASE NUMBER:CR-03-1368 (ARR)

WILLIAM E. WEBER, ESQ

2509 AVENUE U

BROOKLYN, NEW YORK 11229

Defendant's Attorney & Address

THE DEFENDANT:

XXX pleaded guilty to count one & two of the superseding indictment.

Accordingly, the defendant is ADJUDGED guilty of such count(s), which involve the following offenses:

TITLE & SECTION	NATURE & OFFENSE	COUNT NUMBER(S)
21 USC 952(a), 963, 960(a) (1) & 960(b) (1) (B)	CONSPIRED TO IMPORT 5 KILOGRAMS OR MORE OF COCAINE AND 50 KILOGRAMS OR MORE OF MARIJUANA.	ONE (1)
21 USC 846 & 841(b) (A) (ii) (II)	CONSPIRED TO POSSESS WITH INTENT TO DISTRIBUTE 5 KILOGRAMS OR MORE OF COCAINE AND 50 KILOGRAMS OR MORE OF MARIJUANA.	TWO (2)

The defendant is sentenced as provided in pages 2 through \_\_\_\_ of this Judgment.  
The sentence is imposed pursuant to the Sentencing Reform Act of 1984.

\_\_\_\_ The defendant has been found not guilty on count(s) \_\_\_\_\_ and is discharged as to such count(s).

XXX Remaining counts are dismissed on the motion of the United States.

XXX It is ordered that the defendant shall pay to the United States a special assessment of \$200.00 which shall be due XXX immediately \_\_\_\_\_ as follows:

It is further ORDERED that the defendant shall notify the United States Attorney for this district within 30 days of any change of residence or mailing address until all fines, restitution, costs, and special assessments imposed by this Judgment are fully paid.

Defendant's Soc. Sec # \_\_\_\_\_

APRIL 11, 2006

Defendant's Date of Birth 9/20/71

Date of Imposition of Sentence

Defendant's Mailing Address:

ALLYNE R. ROSS, U.S.D.J.

116-26 222<sup>nd</sup> STREET

APRIL 11, 2006

CAMBRIA HEIGHTS, NEW YORK 11411

Date

Defendant's Residence Address:

A TRUE COPY ATTEST

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

ROBERT C. HEINEMANN

CLERK OF COURT

( SAME AS ABOVE )

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
DEPUTY CLERK

IMPRISONMENT

The defendant is hereby committed to the custody of the United States Bureau of Prisons to be imprisoned for a term of one hundred eighty (180) months. Both counts are to run concurrently.

XXX The Court makes the following recommendations to the Bureau of Prisons:  
THAT THE DEFT BE HOUSED AT THE FACILITY IN OTISVILLE.

\_\_\_\_ The defendant is remanded to the custody of the United States Marshal.  
The defendant shall surrender to the United States Marshal for this district,

\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_ a.m./p.m. on \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_ as notified by the Marshal.

\_\_\_\_ The defendant shall surrender for service of sentence at the institution designated by the Bureau of Prisons

\_\_\_\_ before 12:00 noon on \_\_\_\_\_.  
\_\_\_\_ as notified by the United States Marshal.  
\_\_\_\_ as notified by the Probation Office.

RETURN

I have executed this Judgment as follows:

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Defendant delivered on \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_ at \_\_\_\_\_, with a certified copy of this Judgment.

\_\_\_\_\_  
United States Marshal

By \_\_\_\_\_

**SUPERVISED RELEASE**

Upon release from imprisonment, the defendant shall be on supervised release for a term of five (5) years.

While on supervised release, the defendant shall not commit another Federal, state, or local crime and shall comply with the standard conditions that have been adopted by this court (set forth on the following page). If this judgment imposes a restitution obligation, it shall be a condition of supervised release that the defendant pay any such restitution that remains unpaid at the commencement of the term of supervised release. The defendant shall comply with the following additional conditions:

1) DEFENDANT SHALL NOT POSSESS ANY FIREARMS.

\_\_\_\_ The defendant shall pay any fines that remain unpaid at the commencement of the term of supervised release.

**STANDARD CONDITIONS OF SUPERVISION**

While the defendant is on probation or supervised release pursuant to this Judgment:

- 1) The defendant shall not commit another Federal, state or local crime;
- 2) the defendant shall not leave the judicial district without the permission of the court or probation officer;
- 3) the defendant shall report to the probation officer as directed by the court or probation officer and shall submit a truthful and complete written report within the first five days of each month;
- 4) the defendant shall answer truthfully all inquiries by the probation officer and follow the instructions of the probation officer;
- 5) the defendant shall support his or her dependents and meet other family responsibilities;
- 6) the defendant shall work regularly at a lawful occupation unless excused by the probation officer for schooling, training, or other acceptable reasons;
- 7) the defendant shall notify the probation officer within seventy-two hours of any change in residence or employment;
- 8) the defendant shall refrain from excessive use of alcohol and shall not purchase, possess, use, distribute, or administer any narcotic or other controlled substance, or any paraphernalia related to such substances, except as prescribed by a physician;
- 9) the defendant shall not frequent places where controlled substances are illegally sold, used, distributed, or administered;
- 10) the defendant shall not associate with any persons engaged in criminal activity, and shall not associate with any person convicted of a felony unless granted permission to do so by the probation officer;
- 11) the defendant shall permit a probation officer to visit him or her at any time at home or elsewhere and shall permit confiscation of any contraband observed in plain view by the probation officer;
- 12) the defendant shall notify the probation officer within seventy-two hours of being arrested or questioned by a law enforcement officer;
- 13) the defendant shall not enter into any agreement to act as an informer or a special agent of a law enforcement agency without the permission of the court;
- 14) as directed by the probation officer, the defendant shall notify third parties of risks that may be occasioned by the defendant's criminal record or personal history or characteristics, and shall permit the probation officer to make such notifications and to confirm the defendant's compliance with such notification requirement.

These conditions are in addition to any other conditions imposed by this Judgment.

**FINE WITH SPECIAL ASSESSMENT**

The defendant shall pay to the United States the sum of \$ 200.00, consisting of a fine of \$ N/A and a special assessment of \$ 200.00.

These amounts are the totals of the fines and assessments imposed on individual counts, as follows:

This sum shall be paid        immediately  
       as follows:

XXX The Court has determined that the defendant does not have the ability to pay any fines, cost of confinement or supervision.

       The interest requirement is waived.  
       The interest requirement is modified as follows:

## Sentence

1           THE COURT: First addressing the guidelines, the  
2 parties have stipulated to a base offense level of 36, a  
3 managerial role enhancement of three levels and a deduction of  
4 acceptance of responsibility of three levels.

5           There was no stipulation with respect to the  
6 guidelines enhancement for abuse of position of trust.  
7 However I found following an evidentiary hearing that the  
8 government's evidence failed to establish by a preponderance  
9 the first of the two requisites of the enhancement, that is  
10 that law enforcement authorities had in fact reposed trust in  
11 Mr. Adams and other airport employees involved in the charged  
12 crimes.

13           Accordingly, I find that under the advisory  
14 guidelines, defendant's adjusted offense level is 36, carrying  
15 a range of imprisonment of 188 to 235 months.

16           In determining an appropriate sentence in Mr. Adams'  
17 case, I have considered the advisory guideline.

18           Turning to the nature and circumstances of his  
19 offenses, defendant's crimes were undeniably serious ones.  
20 While I do not view him within the very highest level of  
21 culpability of defendants involved in the importation schemes  
22 in that he generally acted at the behest of others, most  
23 notably Brown, and was not the primary organizer of most  
24 importations, the exceptions being the relatively less serious  
25 importation schemes, he was indeed ubiquitous. He was

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1 directly or indirectly responsible for recruiting innumerable  
2 airport workers into these drug importation conspiracies. He  
3 played a significant supervisory role in many albeit not all  
4 of the schemes and took an active interest in assisting the  
5 highest echelon players, again primarily Brown in developing  
6 other importation schemes involving new source countries,  
7 different airlines and different methods of importation.

8 Significantly too, although I found that the  
9 evidence failed to support the traditional guidelines  
10 enhancement for abuse of position of trust in committing these  
11 crimes, defendant made full use of his position as an airport  
12 worker which even absent the actual reposing of trust by law  
13 enforcement is nonetheless a very sensitive position due to  
14 the enhanced societal dangers created by corruption at a major  
15 international port or airport such as JFK.

16 In my view, this circumstance exacerbates the  
17 seriousness of defendant's conduct. Similarly exacerbating  
18 seriousness of the defendant's offenses is his responsibility  
19 for corrupting so many other airport workers who joined in the  
20 illegal schemes.

21 On the other hand, although defendant possessed a  
22 gun, there is no evidence that he used it in connection with  
23 these crimes or engaged in any form of violence.

24 Turning to the history and characteristics of the  
25 defendant, Mr. Adams is a 34 year old naturalized citizen with

## Sentence

1 no prior convictions or arrests. From a relationship in the  
2 early 1990s, he has a 12 year old son whose mother confirms  
3 that defendant provided financial assistance whenever  
4 requested in amounts ranging from 250 to \$500.

5 Defendant is married to a woman with various  
6 physical and psychological problems who has a 15 year old  
7 child from a prior relationship and an eight year old child  
8 with the defendant.

9 Defendant's wife works as a developmental aid for  
10 the State of New York, earning approximately \$26,000 a year.  
11 Her earnings supplemented by the financial help of defendant's  
12 parents apparently should suffice to support her and the  
13 children.

14 Based on a review of all of the facts and  
15 circumstances of defendant's history and offenses, I believe  
16 that a sentence of 180 months or 15 years imprisonment is of  
17 sufficient but no greater severity than necessary to  
18 accomplish the goals of sentencing set forth in Section  
19 3553(a). 15 years imprisonment is undeniably severe and I  
20 believe amply serves the goal of just punishment for the  
21 extremely serious offenses committed by the defendant.

22 I believe this sentence is also of sufficient  
23 severity to serve as a deterrent to other airport employees  
24 who might otherwise succumb to the temptation to corrupt their  
25 sensitive positions for pecuniary or other personal gain.

ALLAN R. SHERMAN, CSR, RPR Official Court Reporter  
United States District Court Eastern District of New York

## Sentence

1           As to specific deterrents, prevention of recidivism  
2 and protection of the public from defendant's conduct,  
3 defendant will not be released from prison until he is almost  
4 50 years old and will no doubt never again be placed in a  
5 position of being able to engage in criminal conduct of this  
6 nature, the only criminal conduct defendant is known to have  
7 committed.

8           Further, the selected sentence will not in my view  
9 engender unwarranted sentencing disparities. While the noted  
10 term of incarceration falls just below the advisory sentencing  
11 guideline, I note that under the sentencing statute, I would  
12 not arrive at a different sentence even if the advisory  
13 guidelines were higher.

14           Therefore, on both counts I sentence Mr. Adams to  
15 the custody of the Attorney General for a period of 180 months  
16 to run concurrently. As I understand it, there is no  
17 forfeiture.

18           Is that correct?

19           MR. RAMOS: No, your Honor.

20           THE COURT: To be followed by a five year period of  
21 supervised release, special condition that I prohibit the  
22 possession of a firearm. I make a finding that he is unable  
23 to pay a fine but I will impose the mandatory 200-dollar  
24 special assessment.

25           Mr. Adams, a defendant may appeal the sentence. You

## Sentence

1 discuss that with Mr. Weber. If you choose to appeal, a  
2 notice of appeal must be filed within 10 days. If you  
3 couldn't afford a lawyer, a lawyer would be appointed to  
4 represent you on appeal.

5 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, your Honor.

6 MR. RAMOS: My recollection is that he pleaded to  
7 the superseding indictment. We ask that you dismiss the prior  
8 indictment.

9 THE COURT: The application is granted.

10 MR. WEBER: Judge, defendant has asked that the  
11 Court recommend Otisville.

12 THE COURT: Yes.

13 Otisville?

14 MR. WEBER: Yes, judge.

15 THE COURT: I'll make a recommendation.

16 MR. WEBER: Just on the record, the defendant has  
17 asked me to put on the record that he is going to appeal.

18 THE COURT: That is fine.

19 (Matter concluded.)

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